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THE AMERICAN GIRLS COLLECTION

PLEASANT COMPANY

PRESENTS

THE AMERICAN GIRLS COLLECTION

KIRSTEN

A pioneer girl of strength and spirit who settles on the frontier in 1854.

MOLLY

A schemer and dreamer on the home front during World War Two in 1944.

This collection is for you if you love to curl up with a good book. It's for you if you like to play with dolls and act out stories. It's for you if you want to collect something so special that you will treasure it for years to come.

This collection is about three lively American girls—Kirsten, Samantha, and Molly—who lived long ago. You can read about their adventures in a series of nine beautifully illustrated books. The books are the heart of The American Girls Collection, but they are only the beginning. There are lovable dolls—Kirsten, Samantha, and Molly dolls—that have beautiful clothes and accessories. They make these stories of the past come alive today for American girls like you.

Read on and meet Kirsten, Samantha, and Molly. Through The American Girls Collection you'll learn what growing up was like for them—the friends they made, the struggles and successes they had in school, and the excitement of their Christmas secrets. You'll see that some things in their lives were very different from yours. But others—like families, friendships, and feelings—haven't changed at all. These are the important things that American girls will always share.

SAMANTHA

A bright Victorian beauty, an orphan raised by her wealthy grandmother in 1904.

The American Girls Collection is available only through this catalogue. The books and tapes are also available at fine bookstores.

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A pioneer girl of strength and spirit. Imagine her life at the edge of America's frontier in a world of wilderness and prairie, of log cabins and one-room school houses. A life of hard work, simple pleasures, and real adventure.

In the summer of 1854, after a long and dangerous journey on a small ship, Kirsten Larson and her family arrived in America. Everything in the new land was different from the small village Kirsten left behind in Sweden. The way people dressed, how they talked, and the ways they traveled all seemed strange to her. When you read *Meet Kirsten* you'll see why she wondered if she would ever feel at home in this new place. Kirsten gets lost in a big city and has to part with her best friend. It is only when the Larsons arrive at a tiny farm on the edge of the frontier that nine-year-old Kirsten begins to believe Papa's promise—America will be a land filled with happy opportunity for all of them.

❤ **MEET KIRSTEN**
by Janet Shaw; With color illustrations
Hardcover Book; 59 pages KMH $12.95
Paperback Book; 59 pages KMP $5.95
Audio Cassette KMT $8.95
For more about the books and tapes, see page 19.

To order, call toll free
1-800-845-0005
Wisconsin 1-608-255-6410

KIRSTEN

❤ KIRSTEN DOLL AND BOOK

Your ***Kirsten doll*** has bright blue eyes that open and close, and beautiful blonde hair that you can brush, braid, and tie with ***ribbons***. She has a huggable soft body with head, arms, and legs that you can pose. She can sit, stand, and hold the accessories in her collection.

Kirsten comes in a blue calico ***dress***—her first real American dress. It has a "grow stripe" at the bottom that her mother let out as she grew taller. She wears the red and white ***apron*** she brought from Sweden with a pocket to hold her treasures.

Her brown striped ***stockings*** are covered by fancy ***pantalettes***. In Kirsten's time girls took pride in keeping pantalettes snowy white—a hard thing to do in muddy fields and cabins on the prairie. Soft brown lace-up ***boots*** complete her outfit.

Your Kirsten doll comes, as shown above, with a ***Meet Kirsten book.***

Kirsten Doll with Hardcover Book
KDH $75

Kirsten Doll with Paperback Book
KDP $68

❤ KIRSTEN'S ACCESSORIES

Be sure to put Kirsten's cheery red-checked ***sunbonnet*** on her when you take her outside. Long ago, girls didn't think freckles were fashionable so they always tried to keep their faces covered.

Tuck her hand-embroidered ***hankie*** in her apron pocket. Then tie her ***spoon bag*** around her waist. It comes complete with ***wooden spoon***. Swedish farmers had just enough knives and forks for their own families. When they went to feasts or celebrations they took their own silverware with them in a spoon bag. Kirsten wore hers on the long boat trip to America. It's embroidered with her initials and the date, 1854.

Kirsten's grandmother gave her an amber heart just before she left for America. It was the only piece of jewelry young girls in Sweden ever wore. The ***amber-colored heart*** for your doll hangs on a delicate ribbon. It's Kirsten's keepsake.
KMA $20

Doll Collectors

A special ***Collector Edition*** of the ***Kirsten doll*** is available. Signed, dated, and numbered by Pleasant Rowland, creator of The American Girls Collection, it is accompanied by an engraved and numbered ***Certificate of Authenticity.*** A hardcover copy of ***Meet Kirsten*** is also included. A sound investment for the educated heart.
KDC $95

Doll Is Shown Actual Size, 18".

Soft cloth body.

Posable arms, legs, and head of vinyl.

All doll clothes have velcro closures.

The Kirsten doll is shown with her accessories which are sold separately.

In Kirsten Learns a Lesson, *Kirsten has a hard time in her new American school because she doesn't speak English very well. Miss Winston, her new teacher, is strict and not very understanding. Things get worse when Miss Winston comes to live with the Larson family. Kirsten's only escape is playing with her secret friend Singing Bird, the Indian girl. When Singing Bird suggests running away forever, Kirsten must decide where she belongs. Kirsten learns some important lessons in school, but she learns something even more important about herself.*

❤ KIRSTEN LEARNS A LESSON

by Janet Shaw; With color illustrations

Hardcover Book; 69 pages KSH $12.95
Paperback Book; 69 pages KSP $5.95
Audio Cassette KST $8.95

❤ *SCHOOL DRESS WITH SHAWL*

Mrs. Larson probably made Kirsten's red print ***school dress*** out of leftover material from her own—the first mother-daughter styles! Since girls didn't wear jackets, Kirsten has a plaid ***shawl*** that you can tie around her so she won't get cold on her long walk to school across the prairie. Her outfit includes dark blue woven hair ***ribbons***. ***KSO $20***

❤ *PIONEER SCHOOL LUNCH*

Pack a lunch for Kirsten in this charming oval wooden box. In Sweden, it's called a ***tine*** (tee-na). Kirsten's father might have carved and decorated hers with its traditional wood-burned design.

Pioneer food was simple but hearty. For lunch, give Kirsten a piece of ***bread***, a ***sausage***, a wedge of ***cheese***, and a juicy wild ***apple***. Kirsten's make-believe food is tucked in the tine with a woven ***napkin***. ***KSA-L $18***

Accessory kits are historically accurate reproductions appropriate for children 8 and over.

❤ *SLATE BAG AND SUPPLIES*

Pencils and paper were scarce in early country schools, so Kirsten did her lessons on a ***slate***. When you play school with her, you'll see that the ***slate pencil*** really works so it comes with a ***wiper***, too. A ***ruler*** completes the school supplies that come in her brown calico ***slate bag***.

Read a tiny version of the original ***book*** that Kirsten used when she learned to read English.

When Kirsten does a good job in school, you can give her the ***Rewards of Merit*** just like she earned in the story. These were the report cards for girls and boys back then. ***KSA-B $20***

In Kirsten's Surprise, *the Larson family celebrates its first Christmas in America. Kirsten wants to keep some of their old Swedish traditions alive in the new country. So, she secretly plans a Saint Lucia celebration for her family. For her own Christmas she hopes for just one special treasure. But everything depends on a trip to town that Kirsten has been pestering Papa about for weeks. At last they go, and the journey turns into a dangerous adventure. When Papa and Kirsten finally get home, you'll understand why the candles in the little cabin glow with a special Christmas love.*

❤ KIRSTEN'S SURPRISE

by Janet Shaw; With color illustrations

Hardcover Book; 62 pages KCH $12.95
Paperback Book; 62 pages KCP $5.95
Audio Cassette KCT $8.95

❤ SAINT LUCIA GOWN

In Sweden, on the darkest day of the year, the oldest daughter dresses up as the Saint Lucia girl. She wears a beautiful white gown with a red sash and a wreath of glowing candles to symbolize the coming of brighter days. On Saint Lucia Day she wakes her family before daylight and takes them coffee and sweet buns.

Your Kirsten doll can wear her long white ***gown*** trimmed with a bright red sash. Matching red hair ***ribbons*** and red-and-white striped ***stockings*** are included with her outfit. ***KCO $20***

❤ SAINT LUCIA WREATH

Kirsten's crowning glory is the traditional Saint Lucia ***wreath*** with red ribbons, lush greens, plump berries, and six tall wooden candles. Imagine how proud she'll feel, and how beautiful she'll look when you put it on her. ***KCA-W $15***

Accessory kits are historically accurate reproductions appropriate for children 8 and over.

❤ SAINT LUCIA TRAY

Kirsten's blue ***tray*** holds a wooden ***candle*** to light her way on the darkest day of the year, when she carries two make-believe Saint Lucia ***buns*** to her family. A heart-shaped ***candle holder,*** a ***sprig*** of greenery, and a checkered ***cloth*** brighten the tray. ***KCA-T $15***

❤ KIRSTEN'S DOLL

What would Christmas be without a doll? Kirsten loved Sari, the rag doll she brought all the way from Sweden. Since dolls were handmade in Kirsten's time, Sari's dear face is hand-stitched. A tiny five inch ***doll*** for Kirsten and you to treasure. ***KCA-D $15***

❤ KIRSTEN'S TRUNK

Early settlers had no closets in their simple cabins. Instead, they kept their belongings in big hand-painted trunks. Kirsten's family carried all their possessions from Sweden across the ocean in one like this. You can keep all of your treasures for Kirsten in this sturdy ***wood trunk*** with its three compartments for storing her clothes and accessories. It has heart-shaped handholds and onion feet, and is hand-painted with a traditional pattern. And best of all, it is big enough to hold Kirsten and her bed, too. A wonderful way to keep them safe and sound until tomorrow—and for years to come. More than a toy; a replica of times past. Crafted in the U.S.A. Height 12", Width 20¼", Depth 10½" ***KT $150***

❤ KIRSTEN'S BED

Kirsten will sleep soundly in this sturdy wooden ***bed*** with its charming hand-painted design on the end. The soft tufted ***mattress*** and matching ***pillow*** are covered in red-and-white striped ticking. The heart-shaped hand-holds at each end make it easy for you to carry the bed, or lift it in and out of the matching trunk. ***KB $50***

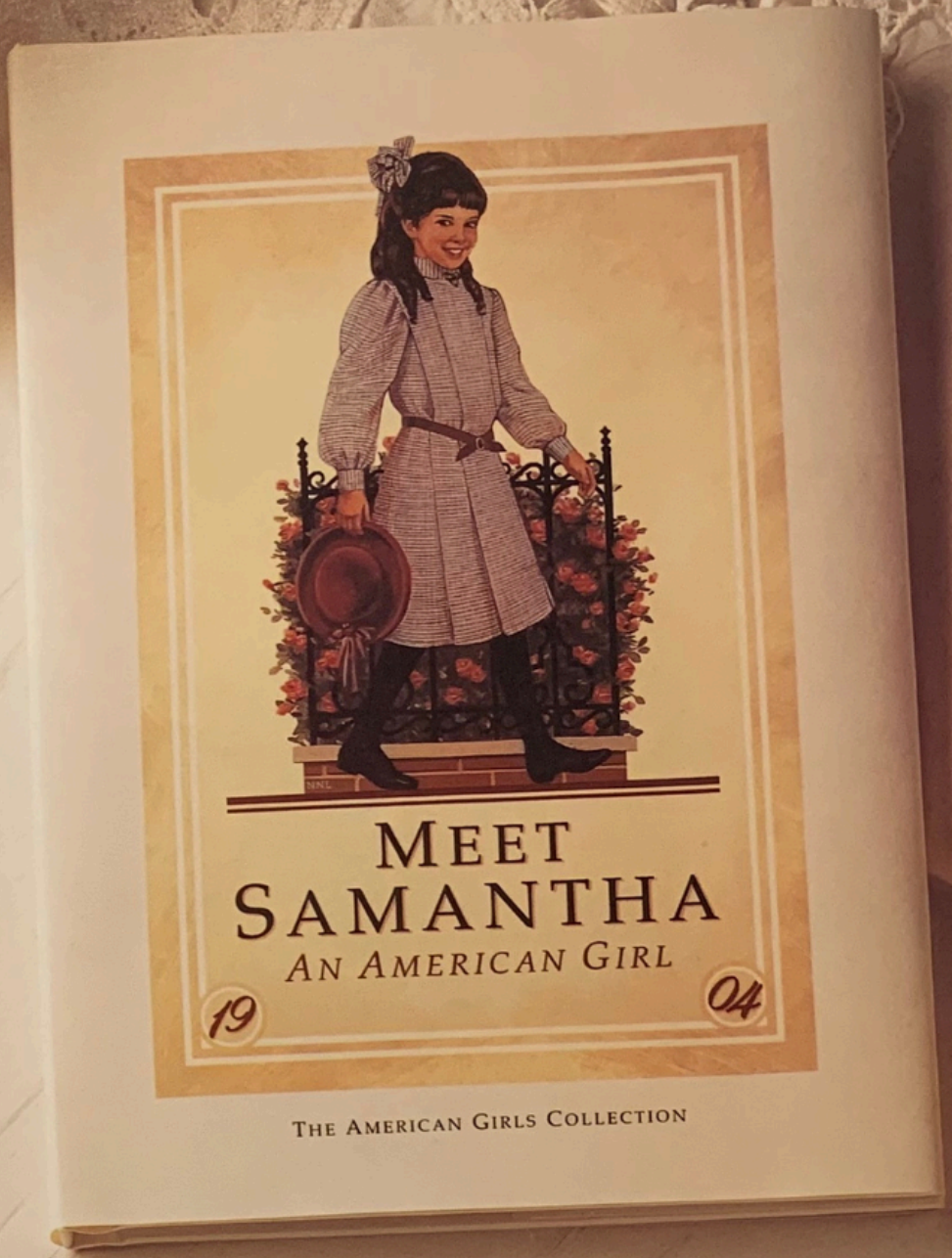
❤ KIRSTEN'S NIGHTGOWN

Imagine how cold pioneer cabins were on frosty winter nights. Kirsten needed a heavy flannel ***nightgown*** to keep warm after the fire burned out. It's trimmed with blue stitching on the yoke, lace around the collar, and a bow. ***KDO $18***

❤ YOUR NIGHTIE

The warmest, softest ***nightgown*** you ever snuggled into. Of pre-shrunk 100% cotton flannel turned inside out so the soft side is next to your skin. The side that shows looks like the crisp homespun linen that pioneers wore. It has drop shoulders and big gathered sleeves that were as stylish in 1854 as they are today. It has a 2" "grow stripe" to let down as you grow up—a practical touch learned from the pioneers! The yoke is stitched and tied in Swedish blue. ***Small (6X-7), Medium (8-10), Large (12) KC $50***

A bright Victorian beauty. Imagine her life in a world of frills, finery, and old-fashioned properness, at a time when America was popping with new-fangled notions.



Samantha Parkington, a nine-year-old orphan, lived with her wealthy grandmother in 1904. There were many servants in Grandmary's elegant household, but no one for Samantha to play with. In *Meet Samantha*, you'll see how excited Samantha is when Nellie moves in next door. But she soon learns that Nellie's life is much different from her own. Nellie has come to work so that she can send money back to her family in the city. Even though Samantha is rich and Nellie is poor, they become good friends. One day Samantha discovers that Jessie, the seamstress, is leaving. No one will tell her why, but Nellie has a hunch. So the two girls plan a secret midnight adventure to find out.

❧ **MEET SAMANTHA**
by Susan S. Adler; With color illustration
Hardcover Book; 61 pages SMH $12.95
Paperback Book; 61 pages SMP $5.95
Audio Cassette SMT $8.95
For more about the books and tapes, see page 19.

To order, call toll free
1-800-845-0005
Wisconsin 1-608-255-6410

SAMANTHA

SAMANTHA DOLL AND BOOK

Your ***Samantha doll*** has sparkling brown eyes that twinkle as they open and close. Brush her long curly hair and tie it up with a big, beautiful bow like Victorian girls wore. Hug her soft body and move her arms, legs, and head. She can sit, stand, and hold all the treasures that come in her collection.

Samantha's taffeta checked ***dress*** has a fashionable pleated front and a dropped waist circled in burgundy satin. Her matching ***bow*** holds back her thick brown ringlets. She wears long black ***stockings*** and black ***shoes*** with ankle straps.

Your Samantha doll comes with a ***Meet Samantha book*** so you can read about her elegant life the minute you start to play with her.

Samantha Doll with Hardcover Book
SDH $75

Samantha Doll with Paperback Book
SDP $68

SAMANTHA'S ACCESSORIES

Samantha's ***hat*** is big and fancy like everything else in Victorian times. It is made of burgundy plush and trimmed in ribbons of rose, dove gray and gold.

Pin a golden ***brooch*** on Samantha's dress. The heart-shaped locket

that hangs from it opens and closes. Inside is a place for ***pictures*** of her mother and father. You can cut them out and paste them in yourself.

Samantha carries a rose velvet ***purse*** with a gold chain to slip over her wrist. Tucked inside is a beautiful ***handkerchief*** with embroidered flowers and a shiny ***Indianhead penny.*** It's a real coin used during Samantha's time and is worth 50¢ today!

SMA $20

Doll Collectors

A special ***Collector Edition*** of the ***Samantha doll*** is available. Signed, dated, and numbered by Pleasant Rowland, creator of The American Girls Collection, it is accompanied by an engraved and numbered ***Certificate of Authenticity.*** A hardcover copy of ***Meet Samantha*** is also included. An heirloom to treasure.

SDC $95

Doll Is Shown Actual Size, 18".

Soft cloth body.

Posable arms, legs, and head of vinyl.

All doll clothes have velcro closures.

The Samantha doll is shown with her accessories which are sold separately.

Samantha goes to Miss Crampton's Academy, a private school for proper young ladies. In Samantha Learns a Lesson, *everyone at school is buzzing about the upcoming speaking contest. Samantha is working hard to win the gold medal, but she has something else on her mind, too. She's worried about Nellie, the poor servant girl who has become her friend. She's trying to teach Nellie to read so the boys and girls at her school will stop calling her "dummy" and "ragbag." Samantha sets up a school and becomes Nellie's teacher. But Nellie teaches Samantha some very important lessons, too.*

SAMANTHA LEARNS A LESSON

by Susan S. Adler; With color illustrations

Hardcover Book; 61 pages SSH $12.95
Paperback Book; 61 pages SSP $5.95
Audio Cassette SST $8.95

BUSTER BROWN DRESS

Samantha wore her gray Buster Brown ***dress*** with its snappy black bow tie to school at Miss Crampton's Academy. It's made of fine wool flannel, and has a pleated skirt and placket front that are top-stitched in white. Six buttons march smartly down the front, and white collar and cuffs add the finishing touches. It comes with a wide black satin ***hair ribbon*** which Samantha had to keep perky even during afternoon exercise classes. ***SSO $20***

TEA TIN LUNCHBOX

Each morning Mrs. Hawkins, the cook, packed a lunch for Samantha in a shiny ***brass pail*** that was originally filled with tea. Her lunch is light and ladylike—half of a watercress ***sandwich,*** a deviled ***egg,*** a perfect ***peach,*** and a gingerbread ***cookie.*** Tuck the proper hand-embroidered cloth ***napkin*** in with the make-believe food before you put the lid on. ***SSA-L $18***

Accessory kits are historically accurate reproductions appropriate for children 8 and over.

BOOK STRAP AND SUPPLIES

A ***book strap*** was the practical "modern" way for girls to carry their books in 1904. Put Samantha's school supplies under the two straps and fasten the buckles tightly.

Samantha's wooden ***pencil box*** has a top that slides off. Inside you'll find two ***pencils*** and a ***nib pen***—the kind she dipped into an inkwell. There's also a green felt pen ***wiper*** to clean it. You can write on the little pages of Samantha's ***Composition Book***.

When Samantha taught Nellie to read, she used *The Baldwin Primer*. You can read this tiny 32-page version of the original ***book,*** too. It's filled with stories, pictures, and songs.

Fill out Samantha's ***Report Book*** with grades for her subjects and proper deportment! ***SSA-B $20***

In Samantha's Surprise, *Samantha has high hopes for the best Christmas ever. Things start to go wrong when her favorite Uncle Gard announces he is bringing his special friend, the beautiful Cornelia, home for the holidays. The household goes into a dither, and in all the confusion, no one pays much attention to Samantha and her private wish for the beautiful doll in the window at Schofield's Toy Store. Samantha blames Cornelia for ruining the holidays. But when Christmas morning comes, Samantha has more than one surprise waiting for her.*

SAMANTHA'S SURPRISE

by Maxine Rose Schur; Color illustrations

Hardcover Book; 67 pages SCH $12.95
Paperback Book; 67 pages SCP $5.95
Audio Cassette SCT $8.95

CRANBERRY PARTY DRESS

Samantha's Christmas outfit of bright cranberry taffeta is the perfect Victorian party ***dress***. It's tied with a white satin sash and trimmed with beautiful lace and elegant ruffles. A pair of white ***stockings*** and a wide satin ***hair ribbon*** finish this Christmas confection. ***SCO $20***

A Fun Project!

REAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE

It took Samantha an entire morning to decorate her gingerbread house. It won't take *you* as long because you can use a ***gingerbread house kit***. Everything you need is included: the real gingerbread pieces already baked, the candy trim, the pastry tube, a recipe for simple frosting, and directions. You just make the frosting and put the pieces together. A wonderful miniature centerpiece when you share Christmas dinner with Samantha. 3½" tall. ***SCA-G $15***

Accessory kits are historically accurate reproductions appropriate for children 8 and over.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC BOX

One of Samantha's special presents on Christmas morning was a bright red album of carols with a ***music box*** in it. This miniature version has tiny pages filled with Christmas songs that American girls have been singing for more than a hundred years. And at the back is a tiny music box. Wind it up and it plays Samantha's favorite carol, "O, Christmas Tree." ***SCA-C $15***

SAMANTHA'S DOLL

For Christmas, Samantha longed for the beautiful ***doll*** she saw in the window of Schofield's Toy Store. It's made of porcelain with movable arms and legs. Her hair is tied back in a big pink bow that matches her ruffly party dress. In her arms she carries a tiny wooden nutcracker—the perfect Christmas doll. ***SCA-D $15***

SAMANTHA'S TRUNK

You can keep all of Samantha's accessories in this elegant Victorian ***steamer trunk***. Covered in gray canvas with brown leather-like trim and brass-plated hardware, this exquisite trunk is lined with burgundy paper in a delicate old-fashioned pattern. Inside are three drawers, a built-in shelf, and an oval brass ***mirror***. Hang her clothes on three heart-trimmed wire ***hangers***. The trunk is big enough for you to keep Samantha in, too, so when you finish playing with her, you can store her safely away. A true heirloom. Crafted in the U.S.A. Height: 21", Width: 11", Depth: 10" ***ST $175***

Clothes and accessories sold separately.

SAMANTHA'S BED

Samantha sleeps in a shiny ***brass bed***. It's a sturdy four-poster with a curvy Victorian headboard. Her soft white ***mattress*** is covered with a lace-trimmed ***spread***, tufted with pink ribbons. Her fluffy ***pillow*** is edged in ruffles, lace, and ribbons, too. In a bed so beautiful, how could she have anything but pleasant dreams? ***SB $55***

SAMANTHA'S NIGHTGOWN

A ***nightgown*** fit for a sugar plum fairy! Samantha wears a flowing white gown trimmed with lace and pink ribbons. Fine lace forms the wide shoulder ruffles and a dainty version edges the neck. ***SDO $18***

YOUR NIGHTIE

Share Samantha's sweet dreams when you wear this beautiful long ***nightgown*** trimmed at the yoke with lace and pink ribbons. Wide ruffles edged in lace flutter over your luxurious full sleeves. It comes with matching ***bloomers***, which any "proper" Victorian girl would have worn! And it's made of the softest cotton-like poly that any girl has ever felt. An exclusive design of The American Girls Collection.

Small (6X-7), Medium (8-10), Large (12) SC $50

A lively, lovable schemer and dreamer. Share her adventures on the homefront during World War Two, when America was hard-working and hopeful, patriotic and proud.

In 1944 the world was at war. For nine-year-old Molly McIntire, life seemed full of change. Her father was far away caring for wounded soldiers. Her mother was busy working for the Red Cross and was hardly ever home. Mrs. Gilford, the strict housekeeper, made her eat terrible things like turnips from the Victory garden. The war made everyone in America serious and practical.

In *Meet Molly* you'll see that even fun things like Halloween costumes were hard to get during wartime. Molly decides to make her own costume, a hula skirt. It is a huge success until Ricky, her pesty big brother, plays a mean trick. Molly and her friends are determined to get back at him. One mean trick leads to another until the fighting goes too far, and a war seems about to break out on the McIntire's own homefront.

★ **MEET MOLLY**
by Valerie Tripp; With color illustrations
Hardcover Book; 59 pages MMH $12.95
Paperback Book; 59 pages MMP $5.95
Audio Cassette MMT $8.95
For more about the books and tapes, see page 19.

To order, call toll free
1-800-845-0005
Wisconsin 1-608-255-6410

MOLLY

★ MOLLY DOLL AND BOOK

Your ***Molly doll*** has soft gray eyes that wink and blink behind her shiny ***glasses***. Her thick pigtails are fun to braid and tie with ribbons, or you can let them out and brush her long wavy hair. Molly is soft and huggable with arms and legs that move so you can have her sit, stand, and hold all the accessories you collect for her.

Molly wears a sporty outfit featuring a navy blue ***sweater*** with a stylish green and red argyle pattern. Push up the sleeves as she would have back in 1944. Under her sweater Molly wears a ***dickey***—a removable collar trimmed in blue rick rack. Her navy blue wool ***skirt*** flares smartly. Red hair ***bows***, white ***anklets***, and black Mary Jane ***shoes*** finish the outfit.

Your Molly doll comes, as shown above, with a ***Meet Molly book***.

Molly Doll with Hardcover Book MDH $75

Molly Doll with Paperback Book MDP $68

★ *Molly's Accessories*

Tilt Molly's navy blue ***beret*** at a jaunty angle and slide her ***shoulder bag*** over her arm. Inside, tuck her monogrammed ***hankie*** and a real 1943 ***steel penny*** that was used during the war when copper was in short supply.

Cut out the ***picture*** of Molly's dad and paste it in her ***locket.*** While Dad was away at war, Molly kept his picture inside the heart—and she never forgot to wear it. ***MMA $20***

Doll Collectors

A special ***Collector Edition*** of the ***Molly doll*** is available. Signed, dated, and numbered by Pleasant Rowland, creator of The American Girls Collection, it is accompanied by an engraved and numbered ***Certificate of Authenticity.*** A hardcover copy of ***Meet Molly*** is also included. A treasure to savor and save for the next generation of American girls. ***MDC $95***

Doll Is Shown Actual Size, 18".

Soft cloth body.

Posable arms, legs, and head of vinyl.

All doll clothes have velcro closures.

The Molly doll is shown with her accessories which are sold separately.

In Molly Learns a Lesson, *the school is having a Lend-a-Hand Contest to help the war effort. Molly is determined that the third grade girls will plan the winning project. Instead, they choose an idea that Molly knows will never work out. So she talks two friends into planning their own project and keeping it a secret from the rest of the girls in the class. But Molly's project turns out to be harder than she thought it would be. Molly begins to worry that it might not win after all. She decides to spy on the other girls to see how they are doing. When Molly and her friends get caught peeking in through a window, they learn some very important lessons.*

★ **MOLLY LEARNS A LESSON**
by Valerie Tripp; With color illustrations
Hardcover Book; 67 pages MSH $12.95
Paperback Book; 67 pages MSP $5.95
Audio Cassette MST $8.95

★ ***PLAID JUMPER AND BLOUSE***

Molly certainly looks smart for school in her plaid ***jumper*** with crisp box pleats. Under it, she wears a white cotton ***blouse*** with buttons in front and lace trim around the cuffs and Peter Pan collar. Tie the green ***hair ribbons*** around her braids for the finishing touch. ***MSO $20***

★ ***BROWN BAG LUNCH***

No fancy lunchbox for Molly! Metal was in short supply during the war, so Molly carried her lunch in a brown paper bag. You get a supply of 10 ***bags.***

Molly's food wasn't fancy either, but it sure tasted good—a peanut butter and jelly ***sandwich***, a ***carrot stick***, a piece of ***celery***, a ripe ***pear***, and a ***cookie*** for dessert. And you get 10 practical ***paper napkins*** to tuck in the bags. ***MSA-L $18***

Accessory kits are historically accurate reproductions appropriate for children 8 and over.

★ ***SCHOOL BAG AND SUPPLIES***

Molly carried her school supplies in a bright red ***school bag***. It has a handle and a shoulder strap for easy carrying. Molly's name is on the front, and there is even an outside pocket where she kept her milk money.

There's plenty of room inside the bookbag for her three-ring ***notebook*** that holds real ***paper***. Snap open the rings and slip the blue canvas ***pencil case*** onto them. The pencil case has a zipper so Molly's ***eraser*** and ***pencils***—one colored and two regular ones—won't fall out.

Molly has English and arithmetic homework to do. Help her practice her math with a pack of tiny ***flash cards***. Her English ***book*** is 32 pages long. It's filled with colored pictures and interesting exercises for you to read and do with Molly. And if Molly works hard, you can give her an "A" on her ***report card***. ***MSA-B $20***

In Molly's Surprise, *the McIntires face a disappointing Christmas. Dad is off at war in England, Molly's grandparents can't come for the holidays, and it looks like there won't be any exciting presents. Worst of all, the family hasn't heard from Dad for a long time, and they're worried. But Molly decides they should make their own merry Christmas—a Christmas filled with the kind of unexpected surprises that Dad would make. Thanks to Molly, the best surprise of all is waiting for the McIntire family on Christmas morning.*

★ **MOLLY'S SURPRISE**
by Valerie Tripp; With color illustrations
Hardcover Book; 65 pages MCH $12.95
Paperback Book; 65 pages MCP $5.95
Audio Cassette MCT $8.95

★ **EVERGREEN VELVET DRESS**
Molly's Christmas ***dress*** of evergreen velvet has collar and cuffs of snow white lace. Styled with a princess waistline, its full circle skirt twirls when Molly spins around. It comes with crisp white ***bows*** for her braids. Even her pesty brother Ricky must admit Molly looks beautiful in this outfit! ***MCO $20***

★ **MOLLY'S CHRISTMAS BOX**
There are always surprises at Christmas and some of the best ones come in the mail. Open Molly's big ***box*** and find two presents inside. A miniature ***glass snowball*** and the ***doll*** of Molly's dreams dressed as a Red Cross nurse in apron, cape, and cap. ***MCA-D $15***

Accessory kits are historically accurate reproductions appropriate for children 8 and over.

★ **MOLLY'S STOCKING**
Hang Molly's striped Christmas ***stocking*** next to yours—it's bulging with surprises! A wooden ***ballerina***, a ***yo-yo*** that really works, a ***flip book*** with moving pictures of Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck, two white ***barrettes*** for Molly's hair, a ***candy cane***, and a ***paint set***. Lots of tiny treasures for you and Molly to play with on Christmas day and all year long. ***MCA-S $15***

★ MOLLY'S TRUNK

Silver and white, shiny and bright! Molly's ***trunk*** is a real sparkler right down to the red stars on the lining inside. A glamorous but sturdy version of the footlockers sailors used during World War Two, it is made of wood, covered in white metal, and trimmed with nickel-plated hardware. Inside are three drawers and a red-framed ***mirror*** that gleams above the built-in shelf. Three heart trimmed wire ***hangers*** are included. Your Molly doll fits right inside the trunk so you can keep her safe and sound. Made to last a lifetime. Crafted in the U.S.A. Height: 21", Width: 11¼", Depth: 10½" ***MT $125***

Clothes and accessories sold separately.

★ MOLLY'S BED

Sporty but soft, Molly's ***bed*** has an upholstered headboard that matches the ***bedspread***. Both are bright red flannel with candy-striped trim. There's a candy-striped ***pillow*** to top it off, and under the spread is a fluffy white ***mattress***. No wonder Molly's friends love to have slumber parties at her house! ***MB $45***

★ MOLLY'S PAJAMAS

Tailored and trim, Molly's ***pajamas*** are classic. They're made of the softest red-and-white striped material. They have traditional styling with cuffed pants and sleeves and a matching belt. With the trunk and bed they're the perfect combination for Molly, the girl who loves stars and stripes. ***MDO $18***

★ YOUR PAJAMAS

If you like to wear oversized shirts that are big and comfy, you will love this version of Molly's ***pajamas***. They are styled for today's American girl, but with all the classic details of Molly's time including open lapels, cuffed pants and sleeves, and red trim. These crisp candy-striped P.J.s are designed and made just for The American Girls Collection. They are of the softest cotton-like poly you've ever felt. Wear the matching sash in your hair for an especially fun look! ***Small (6X-7), Medium (8-10), Large (12) MC $40***

The books in The American Girls Collection are also available at fine bookstores throughout the United States.

LOOKING BACK 1904
Look at the clothes, rooms, and food on this page and peek into the stylish, "proper" world Samantha
STOCKINGS
No Supporters
No Wrinkles
In 1904, proper young ladies like Samantha wore dresses covered with frilly aprons, high button shoes, and long stockings held up with garters, even when they were playing. They couldn't climb trees in a pair of jeans, like you do. In fact, it really wasn't very proper for young ladies like Samantha to climb trees at all!
Imagine sitting down to this table for dinner. You would eat soup, fish, two kinds of meat, potatoes, vegetables, and several desserts. Your meal might last for three hours. It would have taken nearly all day
CHAPTER ONE
AMERICA!
"That's America!" Kirsten said happily. She stood at the ship's railing with her friend Marta and pointed to the green strip of land beyond the waves. Overhead, the tall sails creaked in the wind.
Marta shaded her eyes and pressed against the railing as though that would make the Eagle sail faster. "I can't wait to walk on land again," she said, and shivered.
Kirsten touched her
"Are you
wind isn't
AMERICA!
her head she saw the sailors crawling into the rigging to adjust the sails. Then she heard Papa's voice.
"Kirsten, where are you?" he called.
Kirsten stood
Strands of
and
MEET MOLLY
war, the whole family always had dinner together. They laughed and talked the whole time. Now things were different. Dad was gone, and every morning Molly's mother went off to work at the Red Cross headquarters. Very often she got home too late to have dinner with the family. And she spent at least an hour every night writing to Dad.
When a letter came from Dad, it was a surprise and a treat. Everyone gathered and listened in silence while Mrs. McIntire read the letter aloud. Dad always sent a special message to each member of the family. He told jokes and drew funny sketches of himself. But he didn't say which hospital he worked in or name any of the towns he visited. That wasn't allowed, because of the war. And even though Dad's letters were long and funny and wonderful, they still sounded as if they came from very far away. They were not at all like the words Dad spoke in his deep-down voice that you could feel rumbling inside you and filling up the house.
Molly used to be able to hear that voice even when she was up in her room doing homework.
6
TURNIPS
Even though Dad's letters were long and funny and wonderful, they still sounded as if they came from very far away.
7
MEET KIRSTEN
MEET SAMANTHA
MEET MOLLY
KIRSTEN LEARNS A LESSON
SAMANTHA LEARNS A LESSON
MOLLY LEARNS A LESSON
KIRSTEN'S SURPRISE
SAMANTHA'S SURPRISE
MOLLY'S SURPRISE
PLEASANT COMPANY
THE AMERICAN GIRLS COLLECTION
KEEPSAKE EDITION

The nine books that tell the stories of Kirsten, Samantha, and Molly are the heart of The American Girls Collection. They will give you many happy hours of pleasant company. If you're in third grade or above, you'll enjoy reading these books on your own. Younger girls may want to read along with the lively, entertaining cassettes.

All the books, both hardcover and paperback, are beautifully illustrated with full-color pictures that bring to life Kirsten's pioneer world, Samantha's elegant household, and Molly's homefront adventures.

At the end of each book is a special section called Looking Back. It's a peek into the past, filled with interesting information and fascinating photographs. You'll learn about one-room schoolhouses and Victorian parlors, about servants and suffragettes, about Victory gardens and Blue Star mothers. Looking Back will show you how some things have changed and other things have stayed just the same for American girls like Kirsten, Samantha, Molly—and you.

❤ KEEPSAKE EDITION

For those who know that books are the gift you open over and over again, there is a special Keepsake Edition of The American Girls Collection. All ***nine books*** are presented in a beautiful burgundy ***slipcase***, embossed in gold and tied with a luxurious French taffeta ribbon. The bow is topped with a charming gold-plated ***bookmark***. A true keepsake to be treasured for years to come.

Keepsake Edition with 9 Hardcover Books
HS $125
Keepsake Edition with 9 Paperback Books
PS $65

Here they are. Kirsten, Samantha, and Molly with all the books, dolls, dresses and other delights they treasured long ago. You can see that American girls in the past were not very different from you. They loved pretty dresses. They enjoyed playing with their favorite dolls. They delighted in special presents just like you do. They too knew the dreams and dilemmas of growing up. These are experiences American girls have always shared. Treasure them today as you play with The American Girls Collection.

❤ KIRSTEN'S COLLECTION

- ☐ Collector Edition of Kirsten doll
- ☐ Three hardcover books
- ☐ Kirsten's accessories
- ☐ School dress with shawl
- ☐ Pioneer school lunch
- ☐ Slate bag and supplies
- ☐ Kirsten's nightgown
- ☐ Kirsten's doll
- ☐ Saint Lucia tray
- ☐ Saint Lucia wreath
- ☐ Saint Lucia gown & stockings
- ☐ Hand-painted wood trunk
- ☐ Hand-painted wood bed, mattress & pillow

Kirsten's Complete Collection KCC $450

To order, call toll free
1-800-845-0005
Wisconsin 1-608-255-6410

SAMANTHA'S COLLECTION

- ☐ Collector Edition of Samantha doll
- ☐ Three hardcover books
- ☐ Steamer trunk
- ☐ Samantha's accessories
- ☐ Samantha's nightgown
- ☐ Cranberry party dress
- ☐ Samantha's doll
- ☐ Christmas carol music box
- ☐ Buster Brown dress
- ☐ Tea tin lunchbox
- ☐ Bookstrap & school supplies
- ☐ Brass bed, mattress, pillow & spread

Samantha's Complete Collection SCC $475

★ MOLLY'S COLLECTION

- ☐ Collector Edition of Molly doll
- ☐ Three hardcover books
- ☐ White metal trunk
- ☐ Molly's accessories
- ☐ Plaid jumper & blouse
- ☐ Brown bag lunch
- ☐ School bag & supplies
- ☐ Molly's pajamas
- ☐ Evergreen velvet dress
- ☐ Molly's Christmas box
- ☐ Molly's Christmas stocking with treasures
- ☐ Upholstered bed, mattress, pillow & spread

Molly's Complete Collection MCC $425

Each collection comes with a hairbrush shown on the order form.

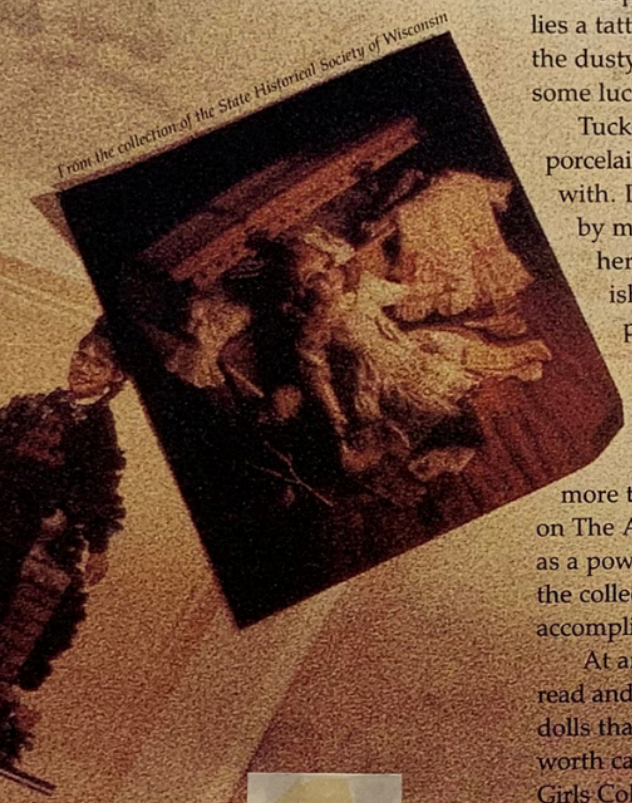
Pleasant Company thanks the following individuals and organizations for their help in authenticating the products in The American Girls Collection:

University of Wisconsin Instructional Materials Center
State Historical Society of Wisconsin
American History Workshop
Fashion Institute of Technology
American Swedish Institute
Lillian Schlissel, Brooklyn College
Karen Brown-Larimore, University of Wisconsin

$2.00

PLEASANT COMPANY

A Message to Parents



From the collection of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin

Deep in the basement of a small museum lies a tattered, water-stained doll trunk. Open the dusty lid and the long-ago childhood of some lucky young girl comes instantly to life.

Tucked gently inside is a beautiful porcelain doll—dearly loved and much played with. Dressed in blue silk and surrounded by marvelous accessories, this doll and her tiny treasures were the most cherished possessions of their owner—possessions so special that they were put away until some faraway day when her own little girl could delight in them.

I discovered this trunk by chance more than a year after I had begun working on The American Girls Collection. It served as a powerful reminder of why I had begun the collection, and what I hoped it would accomplish.

At an age when girls are old enough to read and still love to play, they need books and dolls that capture their imaginations and are worth caring for. The stories in The American Girls Collection come alive with beautiful dolls and period doll clothes. The doll accessories are replicas of real things found in times gone by. They are quality pieces—not plastic playthings—and are made for children over eight years old to treasure.

I hope The American Girls Collection will be dearly loved and well played with and then passed down to other generations of girls tomorrow—a reminder that growing up in America is, has been, and can always be an experience to treasure.

Pleasant T. Rowland

Ms. Rowland, the creator of The American Girls Collection and the president of Pleasant Company, is a noted educator and author of children's reading and language arts materials used in schools throughout the nation.

Bulk Rate
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